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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Dwory Chemical Combine near Oswiecim	DATE DISTR.	9 February 1955
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 Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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Dwory Chemical Combine

1. The Dwory Chemical Combine near Oswiecim employs 18,000 workers. Of this number, 9,000 are employed in the chemical plant; 8,500 are employed in the construction enterprise; and 500 are employed in the Chemical Synthesis Institute. There are three shifts: 2300 to 0700; 0700 to 1500; and 1500 to 2300.

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2. The following are the head personnel of the plant:

a. General Director: Chemical Engineer Wacław Sobieranski, M.A.

b. Director of Administration and Trade

: Stanisław Warchał.

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c. Director for Investments

(Constructions) : Engineer Paweł Szper.

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d. Director of Production

: Chemical Engineer Franciszek Gorka, M.A.

e. Manager of Plant W-4

: Chemical Engineer Franciszek Gajewski, M.A.

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(NOTE: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

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f. Deputy for Head

of Personnel : Robaszkiewicz (fnu).

3. The combine is guarded by a KEW (Internal Security Guard) detachment and an Industrial Guard detachment.
4. The housing settlement is located between the chemical works and the town of Oswiecim. At present there are accommodations for some 10,000 employees and workers, but building work continues.
5. Electric power is supplied by the works' own plant (capacity not known). In case of emergency, electric current may be drawn from a high-tension line from Laziska Górne (approximately five kilometers southwest of Mikolow, Silesia).
6. The main departments of the combine are:
 - a. Oswiecim Chemical Works under construction (Zakłady Chemiczne Oswiecim w budowie -ZChO)
 - b. Chemical Synthesis Institute (Instytut Syntezy Chemicznej -ISC_h)
 - c. Construction Enterprise of the Chemical Works (Przedsiębiorstwo Budowy Zakładów Chemicznych -PBZCh)
7. Up to April 1954, construction work, in accordance with investments, was carried out at 38 different sites, which were designated from I-1 to I-38. The purposes for which these were to be used

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- a. I-1 Production of carbide.
 - b. I-3 Production of synthetic rubber.
 - c. I-16 Extension of plant W-4 (in which production of acetic acid and acetic anhydride took place).
8. Plants designated W-1 to W-8 had been erected and were in operation in April 1954, as follows: (Numbers correspond to those on Sketch No. 1.)
- | <u>Plant</u> | <u>Production</u> | |
|--------------|---|------|
| W-1 | Synthetic gasoline by the Fischer-Tropsch method. | 25X1 |
| W-2 | Trichlorethylene (TRI). | |
| W-3 | Polychloridevinyl (IGELIT). | |
| W-4 | Acetic acid, acetic anhydride. | |
| W-5 | Oxygen: liquid and gas form. | |
| W-6 | Semi-coke. | 25X1 |
| W-7 | Methanol. | |
| W-8 | Phenol. | |
- also, at
9. Electric power plant.
 10. Mechanical engineering workshops.
 11. Vulcanization workshops (not located on sketch).

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Description of Plant W-4

9. The production of acetic acid and acetic anhydride was begun in January 1955. They were produced by employment of the gas and mercury method, using calcium carbide (CaC_2) as raw material. Acetylene was obtained by the gasification of CaC_2 . Acetaldehyde was produced through hydration of the acetylene: $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$
- a. In further treatment through oxidation of acetaldehyde, technically pure acetic acid is obtained:
- $$2\text{CH}_3\text{CHO} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}$$
- b. By dehydrating the acetic acid through ethylene-acetate ($\text{CH}_3\text{COOC}_2\text{H}_5\text{O}$), acetic anhydride is obtained:
- $$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{CH}_3\text{COOH} & & \text{CH}_3\text{CO} \\ \text{CH}_3\text{COOH} & \text{CH}_3\text{COOC}_2\text{H}_5\text{O} & \text{CH}_3\text{CO} \end{array} \rightarrow \text{O} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$$
10. The average monthly production at Plant W-4 is approximately 100 tons of acetic acid and 45 tons of acetic-anhydride. This monthly target was normally achieved, with the exception of January and February 1954, due to the severe frost in Poland. It was anticipated that the second installation (site I-16) for the production of acetic acid would be put into operation in July 1954. With the latter plant, the total production of acetic acid would amount to approximately 250 tons per month.
11. Up to April 1954, the production of pure acetic anhydride had not been achieved, because it was not possible to separate the raw product by the distillation process. The highest concentration of acetic anhydride which was obtained, amounted to approximately 50 percent.

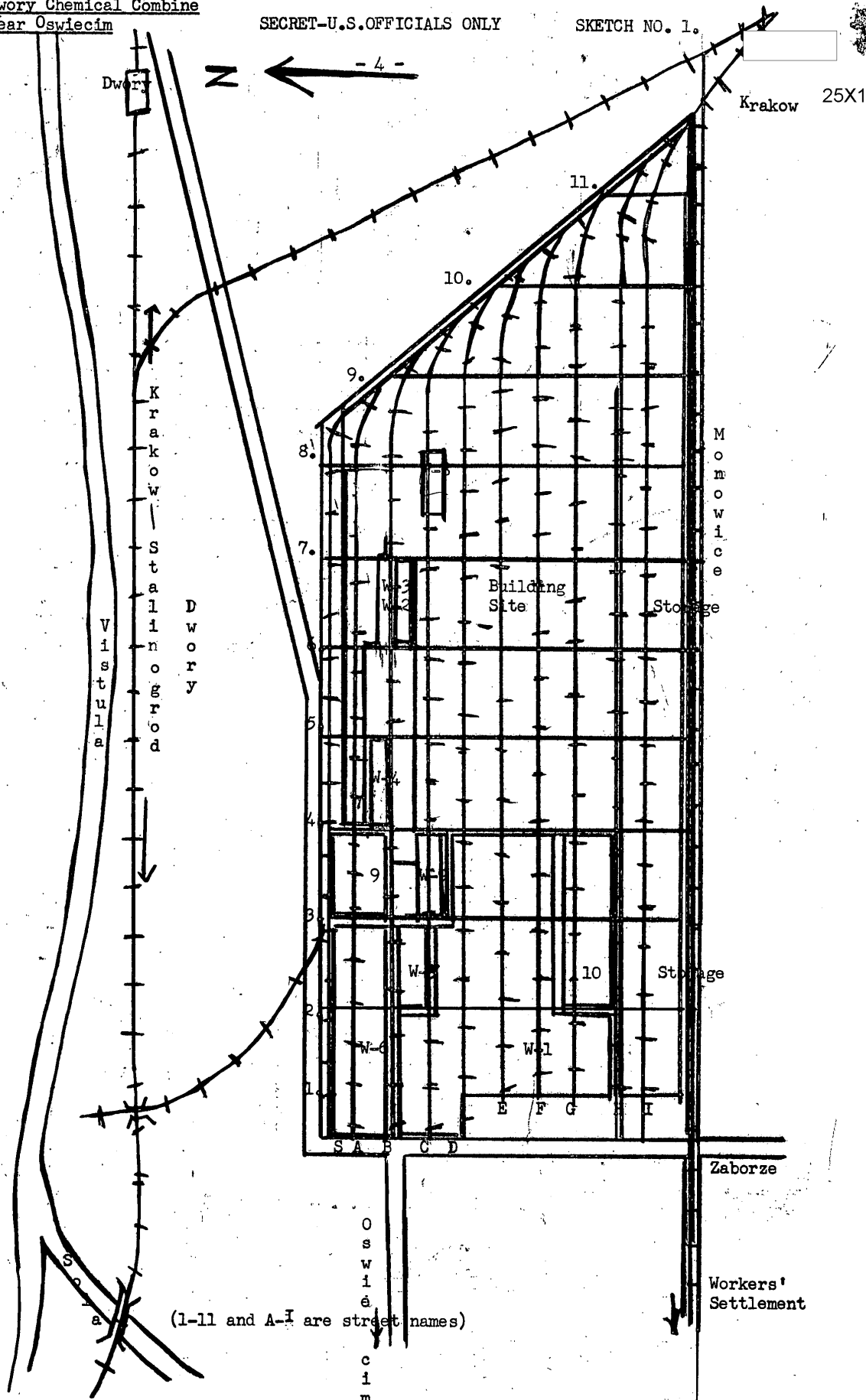
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Dwory Chemical Combine
Near Oswiecim

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SKETCH NO. 1.



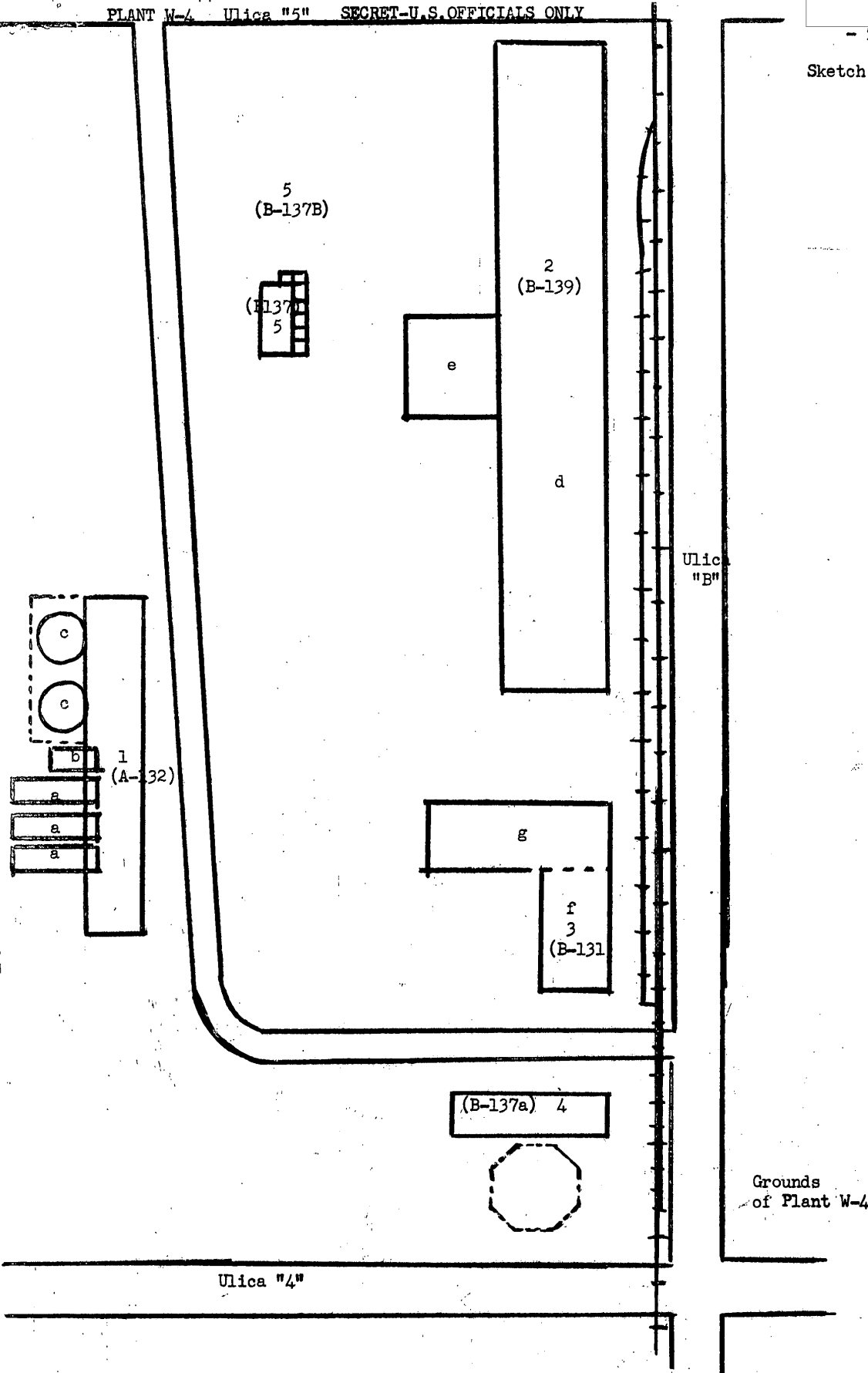
(1-11 and A-I are street names)

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PLANT W-4 Ulica "5" SECRET-U.S.OFFICIALS ONLY

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Sketch No. 2



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Legend for Sketch No. 2

1. A-132: Two-story red brick factory building, approximately 30 x 6 m. There is only a pump station here for raw material and the pure product (Reinprodukt). Outside the building there are three cylindrical shaped containers of the following dimensions: length 10 m., diameter 3 m., capacity 70 m. Only the front lids (Vorderdeckel) of the containers are inside the pump station.
 - a. Pure aldehyde is stored here. To the left of these tanks there is a free space for the construction of more tanks.
 - b. Croton-aldehyde is stored in a small container 3 x 5 m., capacity 35 m³., lined with copper.
 - c. Acetaldehyde stored in two tanks standing outside the pump station, 7 m. in diameter, 8½ m. high.
2. B-139: This is the actual plant for production of acetaldehyde and consists of two buildings:
 - d. Approximately 70 x 12 m., with two installations for the production of aldehyde. The first installation was produced in the mechanical workshops of the combine, the second one was delivered from the USSR and is now being erected. It is due to be put into operation in July 1954.
 - e. Approximately 10 x 10 m., containing only an installation for regeneration of used-up contact acid (catalyzer). This apparatus was also manufactured in the mechanical workshops.
3. B-131: Factory building in two parts:
 - f. The southern part, built of clinkers, is approximately 20 x 8 m. The regeneration plant of used-up acetylene is located here.
 - g. The northern part, a two-story brick building approximately 20 x 8 m., contains laboratory, sanitary premises for plant W-4, and a fitter's shop.
4. B-137a: A single-story, brick building approximately 18 x 5 m. Here there is a clarification plant for cleaning of waste water before it drains off into the river.
5. B-137 and B-137b: These are settling tanks (Absetzbehälter) for waste liquid. There is a small installation here for regeneration of mercury from the waste liquids.

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